

Full-Time Economics Term Research Assistant Job Description (Laibson/Madrian/Choi/Beshears)

Economics professors David Laibson (Harvard University), Brigitte Madrian (Harvard University), James Choi (Yale University), and John Beshears (Harvard University) employ full-time research assistants with start dates during the summer of 2017. This one-year position entails work on multiple projects in theoretical and empirical research related to behavioral economics, decision making, finance, savings, and health behaviors. The research uses field data, experimental data, and hybrid field experiments. Current projects include analyzing retirement savings decisions using a large multi-employer dataset and using credit bureau data to understand consumption choices. For examples of our past research, see <http://faculty.som.yale.edu/jameschoi/AD-QJE.pdf>, <http://faculty.som.yale.edu/jameschoi/roth.pdf>, and <http://faculty.som.yale.edu/jameschoi/annuitization.pdf>.

Your responsibilities will include performing statistical analyses on large databases, designing and running experiments, programming simulations of theoretical models, and proving theoretical results. We are also interested in hiring students interested in genoconomics--the identification of genetic variation that is associated with variation in economic behavior. If you would be interested in such work, even if you have no prior experience, please note this interest on your application.

Research Assistants must be detail-oriented and have strong programming and quantitative skills, including coursework in multivariable calculus, matrix algebra, probability, and statistics. Those with previous experience estimating econometric models have priority in the hiring process. Bachelor's degree by hire date with excellent grades is required. Research assistants should have an interest in applying to a quantitative Ph.D. program (preferably in economics) and pursuing an academic research career.

We prefer research assistants who want to become professional economists, but we're interested in future Ph.D.s in any quantitative field. Our past full-time RAs have enrolled in the following Ph.D. programs: Harvard economics (10), Harvard business economics (4), Harvard public policy (1), MIT economics (5), MIT operations research (1), Princeton economics (1), University of Chicago GSB – finance (2), University of Chicago GSB – economics (2), University of Chicago history (1), UC Berkeley economics (1), Yale economics (1), and Columbia economics (1).

OTHER DETAILS

Wage – \$52,000

Location – Cambridge, MA

Start Date – 6/15/2017 (negotiable)

EMPLOYER PROFILE

Founded in 1920, the National Bureau of Economic Research is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan research organization dedicated to promoting a greater understanding of how the economy works. The NBER is committed to undertaking and disseminating unbiased economic research among public policymakers, business professionals, and the academic community. The NBER is an equal opportunity employer.

TO APPLY

Please scan into **one** pdf document:

- 1) A cover letter describing your interest in and qualifications for the position
- 2) Your resume
- 3) An unofficial transcript

This document must be uploaded into the online application form, which can be found at this link:

https://workforcenow.adp.com/jobs/apply/posting.html?client=nbecon&jobId=19423&lang=en_US&source=CC3

If we choose to interview you, we will notify you of our decision. Later in the process, we may ask you for up to three references.